EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING
LIAISON OFFICE

Information about EPLO Membership

Thank you for your interest in joining the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO). Please find below a description of the application process, the membership criteria and fees, and the application form. More information about EPLO's structure, decision-making processes and activities can be found on the EPLO website (www.eplo.org)
Please feel free to contact the EPLO office in Brussels with any queries (E-mail office@eplo.org).

EPLO member organisations (MOs) have agreed that EPLO should seek to strengthen its membership in the next five years. According to Objective 1 of the EPLO Strategic Framework 2026-2030: *EPLO will leverage its position to strengthen broader, more resilient alliances that re-establish commitment to conflict prevention and peacebuilding as the most sustainable responses to conflict.*

EPLO is open to receiving applications from European civil society organisations working on conflict prevention and peacebuilding, as described in this document.

I. Criteria for Admission

The criteria for admission to EPLO are as follows:

EPLO is **open** to non-profit organisation[1] based in Europe[2] that:

- Subscribe to EPLO's objectives and values[3]
- Agree to the EPLO Statutes
- Have a substantial part of their work in peacebuilding, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and related fields
- Are willing and able to pay the membership fee
- Have at least 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff member[4]

EPLO is **not open** to organisations:

- That have active governmental officials or other individuals in their decision-making structure such as to constitute a conflict of interest to EPLO as an independent platform
- Whose values, working methods or reputation seriously undermine the work of EPLO's MOs.

II. Procedure for admission

Applicant organisations should submit:

- A completed application form (see below)
- Their most recent annual accounts

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[1]NGOs, networks of NGOs, think tanks and research centers.
[2]EU Member States, EU Candidate Countries, countries participating in the Stability and Association Process, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein.
[3]A description of EPLO's objectives and values can be found at http://eplo.org/about-us and 2026-2030 Strategy
[4] This is calculated on the basis of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff members, including part time staff members and excluding interns/volunteers. Part-time employees should be counted proportionally based on their time commitment.

EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING
LIAISON OFFICE

EPLO's 55+ MOs decide on membership applications during the annual EPLO General Assembly (GA) which usually takes place in March or April. A two-thirds majority is required to approve membership of an applicant. The GA has the right to refuse an application for admission to EPLO without further explanation.

EPLO's Steering Committee (SC), consisting of representatives of five to seven EPLO MOs elected by the GA, reviews all applications and makes its recommendations based on the criteria set out in Section I.

Applications are due two months before the annual GA. All applicants will have met/spoken to the EPLO Executive Director and/or Assistant Director. It will also be useful if applicants have discussed their application with a member of the EPLO SC[5].

III. Membership Fees

The EPLO membership fee is paid each calendar year. Payment must be made in advance of the General Assembly and voting rights at the GA are contingent upon the payment of the membership fee. The GA decides on the fee structure which is the same for all MOs. EPLO's MOs are committed to EPLO maintaining a minimum of one staff in the Brussels office independent of outside funding.

Fees for 2027 are set out below:

a. Individual NGOs with a base in Europe

NGOs based in Europe with fewer than 18 staff members pay a basic entry fee of € 500 and then € 300 for every member of staff[6] employed in Europe. Staff members based outside Europe are not included in the calculations. For example, an organisation with 10 FTE staff members employed in Europe will pay € 500 + (10 x € 300) = € 3500.

Organisations located in EU Member States that joined the EU after 2003 (excluding Malta and Cyprus)[7], EU Candidate Countries[8] and countries participating in the Stability and Association Process[9] benefit from a 50% reduction in membership fees which is based on a comparison of relevant average wage rates compared to Brussels rates.

Fees are subject to a 3% annual increase, including where caps apply.

Size of organisation (number of FTE staff members)	Membership fee (€)
0	500
1	800
2	1100

[5]Information about current EPLO SC members can be found at https://eplo.org/about-us/who-we-are/
[6]This is calculated on the basis of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff members, including part time staff members and excluding interns/volunteers. Part-time employees should be counted proportionally based on their time commitment.
[7] Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia (2004), Romania, Bulgaria (2007).
[8] Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine.
[9] Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING
LIAISON OFFICE

3	1400
4	1700
5	2000
6	2300
7	2600
8	2900
9	3200
10	3500
11	3800
12	4100
13	4400
14	4700
15	5000
16	5300
17	5600
18-24	7200
25-34	7600
35-44	9100
45+	10700

b. Networks and platforms of NGOs

- Small networks/platforms: € 2600
- Medium-sized networks/platforms: € 6200

EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING
LIAISON OFFICE

EPLO Membership Application Form

Deadline: 31 January, 2027

- Name of organisation
- Legal status, including registration number (if relevant)
- Names of members of board of directors[10]
- Number of full-time equivalent staff employed in Europe[11]
- Name and position of proposed representative to EPLO
- Mission and objectives (you may attach your agreed mission statement)
- How do your organisation's objectives and values support EPLO's objectives and values?
- What are your organisation's core activities?
- What is your organisation's interest in EU policy in relation to its conflict prevention and peacebuilding work? How does your organisation engage with EU institutions, Member States or other European institutional stakeholders?
- How much of your work is focused specifically on conflict prevention and peacebuilding in terms of activities, staff and finance? (Please try to indicate this in percentages)
- How does your organisation work with governments and how does it protect its independence as an NGO?
- What does your organisation expect to gain from membership of EPLO?
- Which of the current EPLO working groups[12] are of particular interest for your organisation?
- Which of the other activities that EPLO undertakes and/or benefits that it provides are of particular interest to your organisation?

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[10] EPLO acknowledges that many international NGOs have large supporting boards that include high-level individuals, including government or international institutions. If the decision-making of the organisation is not dependent on approval from these people, EPLO sees no problem in independence. However, some functions might interfere directly with the advocacy targets of EPLO towards EU institutions. EPLO MOs, therefore, wish to gain an understanding about the composition of your management structures.

[11] Including EU Member States, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, Kosovo, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein.

[12] 1. EU-Africa; 2. Climate Crisis and Peacebuilding; 3. Communications Community of Practice; 4. EU Eastern Neighbourhood and Western Balkans; 6. Funding for Peacebuilding; 7. Gender, Peace and Security; 8 EU-Middle East and North Africa; and 9. EU Policy.